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REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the telephone interview of December 6, 2001. Claims 1 - 15 are pending in the present Application. In the above-identified Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1, 6 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Angiulo et al. Claims 2 - 5, 7 - 10 and 12 - 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Angiulo et al. in view of Stone et al.

To overcome the 102(e) rejection, Applicants have incorporated the limitations of Claims 2, 7 and 12 into independent Claims 1, 6 and 11, respectively. Consequently, Applicants have canceled Claims 2, 7 and 12. It should be noted, however, that by this Amendment Applicants have effectively canceled independent Claims 1, 6 and 11 and re-written Claims 2, 7 and 12 in their independent form. Applicants have also added new Claims 16 - 28 for consideration. For the reasons stated more fully below, Applicants submit that the claims in the Application are allowable over the applied references. Hence, reconsideration, allowance and passage to issue are respectfully requested.

As mentioned in the Application, image files contain much more data than text files and thus take longer to download and display. In addition, the more complex the image the greater the amount of data needed to represent the image. Hence, it can be very frustrating, when displaying a document containing more than one graphic image of which only one (image) may be of interest to a user, for the user to wait for the whole document to be downloaded and displayed. Conventional browsers have

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afforded users the luxury to stop the download and display of a document by a simple mouse click on a "STOP" button. However, when the stop button is used, the display of the whole document is aborted and not just the images that are not of interest. The present invention provides a mechanism to either suspend or altogether cancel the download and display of graphic images in a document.

In accordance with the teachings of the invention when a text file containing an embedded image file is to be displayed, the display of the image file will be stopped (while the image file is being displayed) if it is of no interest to the user. This capability of displaying only image files of interest to the user greatly reduces the time the user spends waiting for the entire Web page to be displayed.

The invention is set forth in claims of varying scopes of which Claim 1, reproduced below, is illustrative.

1. A method of controlling web browser document displays, said document being displayed on a display system and having at least a text file and an image file, said method comprising the steps of:  
displaying said text file on said display system;  
displaying said image file on said display system; and  
**halting the display of said image file, while said image file is being displayed, if said image file is not of interest to a user.** (Emphasis added.)

The Examiner rejected independent Claims 1, 6 and 11 under 35 U.S.C §102(e) as being anticipated by Angiulo et al. Applicants respectfully disagree.

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Angiulo et al. purport to disclose a method of representing a graphic image on a Web page with a thumbnail-sized image. According to Angiulo et al., a user who wants to represent a graphic image with a thumbnail-sized image has to first select the graphic image and then replace the image with the thumbnail-sized image. After doing so, the user has to store the Web page with the thumbnail-sized image for later use (see column 9 lines 5 to 64).

However, Angiulo et al. do not teach, show or even suggest *halting the display of an image file, while the image file is being displayed, if the image file is not of interest to a user* as presently claimed.

Stone et al. purport to disclose a Web browser control mechanism for incorporating Web browser functionality into application programs. According to Stone et al., a software object called a Web browser control exposes Web browser functionality to application programs through an application programming interface. Accordingly, the "stop" interface command mentioned by the Examiner performs the same function as the "stop" button mentioned in the Application on page 4, lines 22 - 25. That is, when the stop interface command is used, the whole Web document display is aborted.

Thus, Stone et al. do not teach, show or suggest halting the display of an image file of a web document while allowing the text file of the document to display as claimed.

Thus, combining Angiulo et al. with Stone et al. does not show, teach or suggest allowing only a text file of a Web document that has both a text file and an image file to

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be displayed if the image file is of no interest to a user as claimed.

Hence, Applicants submit that Claim 1 and its dependent claims should be allowable over the cited reference. Independent Claims 6 and 11 and their dependent claims, which all incorporate the above-emboldened/italicized limitations, should be allowable as well.

New claims 16 - 28 recite the limitations of stopping the download of an image file if the image file is not of interest to a user while the document in which the image is embedded is being downloaded. Neither Angiulo et al. nor Stone et al. teach or show these limitations. Therefore, these new claims should also be allowable.

Consequently, reconsideration, allowance and passage to issue are once more respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
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ATTACHMENT

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Amended) A method of controlling web browser document displays, said document being displayed on a display system and having at least a text file and an image file, said method comprising the steps of:

displaying said text file on said display system;  
[and]

displaying said image file on said display system; and  
[only if said image is of interest to a user.]

halting the display of said image file, while said image file is being displayed, if said image file is not of interest to a user.

Please cancel Claim 2.

3. (Amended) The method of Claim [2] 1 further including the step of resuming displaying said image file after halting displaying said image file.
4. (Amended) The method of Claim [2] 1 wherein said step of halting displaying said image file includes the step of stopping downloading data representing said image file to said display system.

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6. (Amended) An apparatus for controlling web browser document displays, said document being displayed on a display system and having at least a text file and an image file, said apparatus comprising:

means for displaying said text file on said display system; [and]

means for displaying said image file on said display system; and [only if said image is of interest to a user.]

means for halting the display of the image file, while the image file is being displayed, if the image file is not of interest to a user.

Please cancel Claim 7.

8. (Amended) The apparatus of Claim [7] 6 further including means for resuming displaying said image file after halting displaying said image file.

9. (Amended) The apparatus of Claim [7] 6 wherein said means for halting displaying said image file includes means for stopping downloading data representing said image file to said display system.

11. (Amended) A computer program product on a computer readable medium having computer program code means for controlling web browser document displays, said

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document being displayed on a display system and having at least a text file and an image file, said apparatus comprising:

computer program code means for displaying said text file on said display system; [and]

computer program code means for displaying said image file on said display system; and [only if said image is of interest to a user.]

computer program code means for halting the display of the image file, while the image file is being displayed, if the image is not of interest to a user.

Please cancel Claim 12.

13. (Amended) The computer program of Claim [12] 11 further including computer program code means for resuming displaying said image file after halting displaying said image file.

14. (Amended) The computer program of Claim [12] 11 wherein said computer program code means for halting displaying said image file includes computer program code means for stopping downloading data representing said image file to said display system.

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16. (NEW) A method of downloading a web document, said document containing a text file as well as an image file, said method comprising the steps of:

downloading and displaying said document; and

stopping, while said document is being downloaded, the download of said image file if said image file is not of interest to a user.

17. (NEW) The method of Claim 16 wherein the stopping step includes the step of halting the display of said image file while said image file is being displayed.

18. (NEW) The method of Claim 17 further including the step of resuming the display of said image file.

19. (NEW) A computer program product on a computer readable medium for downloading a web document, said document containing a text file as well as an image file, said computer program product method comprising:

code means for downloading and displaying said document; and

code means for stopping, while said document is being downloaded, the download of said image file if said image file is not of interest to a user.

20. (NEW) The computer program product of Claim 19 wherein the stopping code means includes code means for

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halting the display of said image file while said image file is being displayed.

21. (NEW) The computer program product of Claim 20 further including code means for resuming the display of said image file.

22. (NEW) An apparatus for downloading a web document, said document containing a text file as well as an image file, said apparatus comprising:

means for downloading and displaying said document;  
and

means for stopping, while said document is being downloaded, the download of said image file if said image file is not of interest to a user.

23. (NEW) The apparatus of Claim 22 wherein the stopping means includes means for halting the display of said image file while said image file is being displayed.

24. (NEW) The apparatus of Claim 23 further including means for resuming the display of said image file.

25. (NEW) A computer system for downloading a web document, said document containing a text file as well as an image file, said computer system comprising:

at least one memory device for storing code data; and

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at least one processor for processing said code data to download and display said document, and to stop, while said document is being downloaded, the download of said image file if said image file is not of interest to a user.

26. (NEW) The computer system of Claim 25 wherein the processor processes said code data to halt the display of said image file while said image file is being displayed.
28. (NEW) The computer system of Claim 26 wherein the processor further processes said code data to resume the display of said image file.

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